



Executive Department  
State of Idaho

*The Office of the Governor*  
**Proclamation**

State Capitol  
Boise

*WHEREAS, Idaho is consistently among the top 10 states in number of completed suicides per capita; and*

*WHEREAS, in 2005, Idaho had the 7<sup>th</sup> highest suicide rates in the country, 45 percent higher than the national average; and*

*WHEREAS, suicide is the 2<sup>nd</sup> leading cause of death of Idahoans aged 15-34; and*

*WHEREAS, in 2006, 218 Idahoans died by suicide and each suicide leaves at least 10 family members and friends to endure the devastation and trauma; and*

*WHEREAS, suicide is a critical and preventable public health problem; and*

*WHEREAS, research demonstrates that increased public awareness of the warning signs of suicide and awareness of appropriate and effective intervention strategies can reduce suicide deaths;*

*NOW, THEREFORE, I, C.L. "BUTCH" OTTER, Governor of the State of Idaho, do hereby proclaim the week of September 7, 2008, to be*

**SUICIDE PREVENTION WEEK**

*in Idaho*



*IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Idaho at Boise, Idaho, on this 28<sup>th</sup> day of August in the year of our Lord two-thousand and eight and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred thirty-third and of the Statehood of Idaho the one hundred nineteenth.*

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "C.L. Butch Otter".

C.L. "BUTCH" OTTER  
GOVERNOR

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Ben Yursa".

BEN YURSA  
SECRETARY OF STATE